

## County Supervisor Mary N. Piepho, District III

## CHAIR CONTRA COSTA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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East Contra Costa Habitat Conservation Plan

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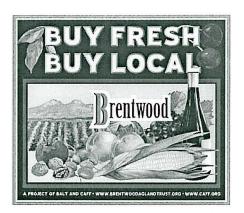
## PRESS RELEASE

June 19, 2007 For Immediate Release Contact: Paige D'Angelo (925) 820-8683

This Saturday June 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10 a.m. Supervisor Mary N. Piepho will join the Brentwood Agricultural Land Trust (BALT) and the Community Alliance for Family Farms (CAFF) at the Brentwood Farmer's Market for the kick-off of their partnership and the "Buy Fresh, Buy Local" national campaign.

"Agriculture is a very important piece of Contra Costa County's history, and now it can be a large part of our future." said County Supervisor Piepho.

"Thirty Contra Costa County farmers and growers have already joined the countywide "Buy Fresh Buy Local" team" said Kathryn Lyddan, Executive Director of BALT. Each member will be able to use the logo and additional material to promote and market their products statewide.



The Buy Fresh, Buy Local campaign is a program that focuses on locally produced products. "Here in Brentwood, we have a rich history of agriculture and offer some of the very best produce in the County," said Lyddan.

The roll out of the Buy Fresh Buy Local programs come just after the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors amended the County Farm Stand Ordinance.

On July 5<sup>th</sup> the newly amended ordinance will take effect and will allow farmers countywide to operate larger stands to sell their produce.

The amendments will allow farmers to choose from three designations of stands. The stands ranging from 1500 to 3500 square feet will also allow farmers to sell their value added products like jams, jellies and dried fruit. In

addition, the new amendments to the Farm Stand ordinance allows for commercial kitchens and temporary events on land designated for agricultural use.

Supervisor Piepho hopes that the amendments to the Farm Stand Ordinance will help to promote viability for the agricultural community in Contra Costa County. "I wish to recognize our local farming community and their hard work on this effort and Contra Costa County Community Development Department, Donna Allen, Tom Powers, Ken Hagan, Tom Bloomfield, Kathryn Lyddan, BALT and the City of Brentwood for their support. Together we have made a difference," said Supervisor Piepho.